

**Architectural Review Board
Meeting March 3, 2004
Minutes**

Present: John La Monica, Chairman, Dean Eckelberry, Carolyn Hartman,
Richard Robison, Mary Root, Ed Tolson
Richard Calderon

1. The Board convened at 4:15 PM
2. Richard Robison made a motion, seconded by Mary Root, to approve the Minutes of February 4, 2004 as amended. The motion passed unanimously.
3. The Board reviewed Jack La Monica's draft letter to the B.O.S. Richard Robison and Mary Root felt that the third paragraph needed to say that the ARB has been hard at work on the Highway Corridor Overlay Ordinance and on the Corridor Guidelines for some time, but that the ARB now believes it very necessary to move expeditiously. Dean Eckelberry added that the reason for the Corridor Overlay needed to be stated explicitly. He suggested a sentence such as: 'This ordinance is designed to preserve community character and visual integrity.' Jack La Monica agreed to modify the paragraph. He would also like to include the accomplishment list from the February Minutes in an earlier paragraph. The Board thought it would strengthen the letter.
4. The Board then reviewed the revised Architectural Guidelines, the Talking Points and the Posters of the Highway Corridor Overlay District. Mary Root suggested an additional Talking Point, namely that the effect of the District would be to level the playing field for local merchants, since they would not be attempting to compete with images projected at potential clients by national franchise television advertising.
5. Richard Calderon briefed the Board about the Planning Commission's discussion and decisions on February 29, 2004 concerning architectural guidelines. Many on the Planning Commission seem to fuse an ARB agenda in the Warrenton Historic District – which is to preserve historic fabric – with an altogether different County agenda in a Highway Corridor – which is to ensure compatibility of a building with its neighbors and with the landscape. As a result, various Planning Commissioners seemed to think that the Fauquier County ARB would insist on 18th century craftsmanship and materials be employed in a corridor. Thus the idea of a Highway Corridor encountered immediate, unreflective resistance because of this fusion. Ed Tolson noted that the guidelines specifically allow modern materials and workmanship, so long as these new materials blend in with the community. Had the Planning Commission read the guidelines, this flexibility would have been apparent. The Board decided to focus immediate effort in contacting respective Supervisors, initially, and work with the Planning Commission thereafter.
6. The meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM